

Message Text

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TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA TO U.S.

NEWSPAPER REPORT

REF: TOKYO 8977 BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. THE FOLLOWING APPEARED IN ASHAI JULY 7 UNDER CAPTION

QTE JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA TO VISIT US THIS NOVEMBER: FOR

PROBE INTO DEFENSE SHARING: BASIC AGREEMENT TOWARD END OF

AUGUST OF FIRST ROUND TALKS WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

UNQTE:

BEGIN TEXT : QTE JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA ON THE 6TH DECIDED

TO VISIT THE US THIS NOVEMBER AND HOLD DETAILED CONSULTATIONS

TO FOLLOW UP THE BASIC AGREEMENT TO US-JAPAN EMERGENCY

DEFENSE COOPERATION SCHLESINGER WHO WILL STOP BY JAPAN ON HIS WAY HOME

FROM THE ROK TOWARD THE END OF AUGUST.

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2. JDA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS ARE PREPARING STUDIES OF QTE

A GENERAL OUTLINE OF JAPAN-US COOPERATION IN OPERATIONS UNQTE AND QTE A CONSULTATIVE ORGAN FOR COOPERATION IN OPERATIONS UNQTE WHICH WILL BE THE FOCUS OF TALKS WITH THE US SIDE. THEY WILL DRAW-UP A TENTATIVE PLAN BY THE END OF AUGUST WHEN THE FIRST ROUND OF THE SAKATA-SCHLESINGER TALKS WILL BE HELD.

3. US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER WILL VISIT THE ROK TO ATTEND THE 8TH MEETING OF THE US-ROK SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL. HE IS REPORTEDLY SCHEDULED TO STOP BY IN JAPAN ON HIS WAY HOME (AT END OF AUGUST OR AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER) AND STAY FOR A DAY OR TWO. JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA WANTS TO EXCHANGE OPINIONS WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ON THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND OTHER POINTS AND ALSO TO HOLD SUBSTANTIAL TALKS ON US-JAPAN DEFENSE COOPERATION.

4. HOWEVER, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OBSERVES THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO DISTILL THE DETAILS OF JAPAN-US DEFENSE COOPERATION BECAUSE OF THE SHORT PERIOD OF THE SECRETARY'S STAY IN JAPAN...

5. JDA LEADERS HOLD IT CERTAIN THAT BASIC AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED ON COOPERATION IN DEFENSE, AT THE SAKATA-SCHLESINGER TALKS TOWARD THE END OF AUGUST. AFTER DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA ASCERTAINS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER'S VIEWS, THEY WILL STUDY THE DETAILS OF THE QTE TENTATIVE PLAN UNQTE. DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA JUDGES THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT, IN VIEW OF THE SCHEDULE, FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO VISIT JAPAN AGAIN AROUND THIS NOVEMBER. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, THEREFORE, INTENDS TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN QTE SOME DETAILED AGREEMENT ON DEFENSE COOPERATION UNQTE. END TEXT.
END UNCLASSIFIED: BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL--LIMDIS.

6. COMMENT: WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN AUTHORITATIVE CONFIRMATION OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS ARTICLE, AND THE JDA PRESS SECTION HAS ATTRIBUTED IT MERELY TO CLEVER ASHAI SPECULATION. HOWEVER, WE ARE INCLINED TO VIEW THE REPORT AS PROBABLY REFLECTING SAKATA'S ACTUAL INTENTIONS. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES SAKATA DOES NOT FEEL THAT ALL THE DETAILS OF A POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE US-JAPAN DEFENSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COOPERATION AGREEMENT (SUBSUMING STAFF CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES) CAN BE WORKED OUT BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE HE WILL SEEK TO USE A GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WHICH WOULD THEN BE FOLLOWED UP WITH A MORE SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENT, WHICH COULD RECEIVE PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE IN JAPAN. FOR THAT PURPOSE, IN LIGHT OF SECDEF'S AUGUST TRAVEL PLANS, SAKATA WILL HOPE FOR AN INVITATION TO GO TO WASHINGTON AROUND NOVEMBER, WHEN DIET NOT EXPECTED TO BE IN SESSION AND BEFORE POSSIBLE

GENERAL ELECTION BEING RUMORED FOR LATE THIS YEAR. END COMMENT.
HODGSON

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